

is included in the new Gray's Manual as var. *intermedius* of *P. opulifolius*; only *P. opulifolius* and this variety are recognized for the manual range. Sax (1931) recorded for *Neviusia alabamensis* an *n*-number of 8 but later (1932) stated that apparently the correct *n*-number is 9. The *2n*-number of 18 given in Table I for this monotypic genus corroborates Sax's second report.

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ERRONEOUS RECORD OF *BORRICHIA FRUTESCENS* FROM DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA.—In the 8th edition of Gray's Manual (p. 1487. 1950) the range of the sea-ox-eye, *Borrighia frutescens* (L.) DC., is given as "borders of saline or brackish marshes, Florida to Texas and Mexico, north to eastern Virginia, and Anacostia River, D. C. July-Oct. (Bermuda)." (The abbreviations in the text here extended.) The species had never previously been reported from the District of Columbia region, and this record of an essentially maritime species so far up the Potomac River system as the Anacostia River was so remarkable as to arouse doubt as to its authenticity. Dr. Reed C. Rollins, to whom I applied for information, wrote me that there was a sheet in the Gray Herbarium labeled as follows: "Marsh along Anacostia River above Benning, District of Columbia, Aug. 28, 1925, *E. T. Wherry & F. W. Pennell 12417*." This seemed definite enough, but the question still remained how the plant, which is entirely

unknown along the Potomac River or even Chesapeake Bay above its mouth, could have reached the Anacostia River without leaving at least some colonies in the more brackish areas along its route. The marsh above Benning Bridge on the Anacostia River is a typical fresh water marsh (in process of being destroyed by dumps) with no saline or even brackish character. Mr. F. M. Uhler, of the Fish and Wildlife Service of the Interior Department, informs me that in normal seasons the head of brackish water is about at the mouth of Aquia Creek, some 40 miles down the Potomac from Washington (in Stafford County, Virginia), and that while the underrun of saline water may in times of drought reach to Mt. Vernon or perhaps even farther up river, it is in no case sufficiently strong or sufficiently prolonged to influence the distribution of plant life. Correspondence with Dr. Wherry and Dr. Pennell, with an interim visit to the locality itself with James E. Benedict, Jr. (who, and not Wherry, had accompanied Pennell on this occasion, as his diary showed), finally solved the mystery. The entry of the number in question (12417) occurred in Pennell's notebook between the end of one day's collecting and the beginning of the next, on the opposite page from the main entries, and through a preparator's error the labels of this number were given the data of the collection above, which was from Benning Bridge, rather than that of the number below with which it rightly belonged. The specimens were actually collected by Wherry and Pennell in a salt marsh at Newport News, Virginia, on August 29, 1925.

The northernmost known locality for *Borrichia* appears to be Chincoteague Island, Northampton County, Virginia, on the Delmarva Peninsula, where it was collected by Dr. R. R. Tatnall, author of the *Flora of Delaware and the Eastern Shore*, on Sept. 13, 1928, in shallow salt water on edge of marsh on the border of the narrow inlet which separates Chincoteague Island from Assateague Island, just east of Chincoteague Island village. This locality is only five or six miles south of the Maryland line, but the species has never yet been found in Maryland, and Doctor Tatnall is inclined to believe that his locality may mark the extreme northern limit of the species.—S. F. BLAKE, Division of Plant Exploration and Introduction, Bureau of Plant Industry, Soils, and Agricultural Engineering, Beltsville, Maryland.